

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system for providing digital entertainment data, the system comprising:

a plurality of buses interconnecting internal components of a gateway, the gateway comprising:

a processor having a processor input connected to a system data bus of the plurality of buses and a processor output connected to the system data bus;

memory having a memory input connected to the system data bus and a memory output connected to the system data bus;

multiple pairs of a tuner and a demodulator with each pair of the tuner and the demodulator receiving a plurality of information signals;

a media bus of the plurality of buses having a first media bus input connected to the multiple pairs of the tuner and the demodulator that receives the plurality of information signals from the multiple pairs of the tuner and the demodulator, the media bus having three media bus outputs, with a first media bus output connected to the system data bus;

a video overlay processor having three video overlay processor inputs and a video overlay processor output, a first video overlay processor input connected to a second media bus output of the media bus, a second video overlay processor input connected to a third media bus output of the media bus, and a third video overlay processor input connected to the system data bus, the video overlay processor output connected to the system data bus, the video overlay processor receiving the plurality of information signals from the media bus and superimposing a first audio-visual signal over a second audio-visual signal to produce a superimposed signal and outputting the superimposed signal over the video overlay processor output to the system data bus;

a network bus of the plurality of buses having a network bus input connected to the system data bus and receiving the superimposed signal; and

a data switch connected to the multiple pairs of a tuner and a demodulator, the data switch having multiple input ports with each pair of the multiple pairs of tuner and demodulator connected to a respective dedicated one of the multiple input ports, such that each pair of the multiple pairs of tuner and demodulator is dedicated to a different input port of the data switch, the data switch also having an input port connected to the network bus that receives the superimposed signal and that sends the superimposed signal to an output switch port.

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5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a mass storage device connected to the system data bus that stores an item identifier corresponding to a content item stored in the mass storage device, the item identifier having a first data field that indicates the content item has been played, a second data field indicating the content item has been purchased, and a third data field indicating the content item has been licensed.
6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a mass storage device connected to the system data bus that stores an item identifier corresponding to a content item stored in the mass storage device, the item identifier storing a cost of playback for the content item and a second cost of purchase for the content item.
7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising:

decryption logic having an input connected to the multiple pairs of the tuner and the demodulator; and

a card reader having a card reader input and a card reader output, the card reader input connected to an output of the decryption logic, the card reader providing

authorization for the decryption logic to decrypt the plurality of information signals to produce decrypted digital information.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising a card reader that receives authorization to decrypt encrypted digital information received from the multiple pairs.
9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8, further comprising decoder logic connected to the media bus.
10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of information signals include a plurality of television program signals.
11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of information signals include an audio signal.
12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of information signals include a data signal.
13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of information signals are received from a transmission facility selected from the group consisting of a direct broadcast satellite, a cable headend, and a terrestrial transmitter.
14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of information signals are multiplexed transmission signals selected from the group of frequency divided multiplexed transmission signals, time divided multiplexed transmission signals, code divided multiplexed transmission signals, wavelength divided multiplexed transmission signals, and dense wavelength divided multiplexed transmission signals.
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36. (Currently Amended) A method of providing digital entertainment data, the method comprising:

interconnecting a plurality of buses to internal components of a gateway;
receiving a plurality of transmission signals at multiple pairs of a tuner and [[a]]
demodulator in the gateway;
selecting an analog information signal from a pair of the multiple pairs of the
tuner and the demodulator;

connecting an input of a digital converter in the gateway to the multiple pairs of the tuner and the demodulator and receiving the analog information signal and converting the analog information signal to digital information;

connecting an output of the digital converter in the gateway to a single input of a media bus of the plurality of buses to receive the digital information at the media bus;

connecting an input of decryption logic in the gateway to the multiple pairs of the tuner and the demodulator to receive encrypted digital information and decrypting the encrypted digital information to produce decrypted digital information;

connecting the single input of the media bus to an output of the decryption logic to receive the decrypted digital information at the media bus;

connecting a first output of three outputs of the media bus to a system data bus of the plurality of buses to send the digital information and the decrypted digital information to the system data bus;

providing a video overlay function by a video overlay processor in the gateway, the video overlay processor having three video overlay processor inputs and a video overlay processor output, a first video overlay processor input connected to a second media bus output of the media bus, a second video overlay processor input connected to a third media bus output of the media bus, and a third video overlay processor input connected to the system data bus, the video overlay processor output connected to the system data bus, the video overlay processor receiving the plurality of information signals from the media bus and superimposing a first audio-visual signal over a second audio-visual signal to produce a superimposed signal and outputting the superimposed signal over the video overlay processor output to the system data bus;

connecting an input of a network bus of the plurality of buses to the system data bus to receive the decrypted digital information, the digital information, and the superimposed signal; [[and]]

dedicating each input port of multiple input ports in a data switch to a different pair of the multiple pairs of the tuner and demodulator, such that each pair of the multiple pairs of tuner and demodulator is dedicated to a different input port of the data switch;
and

connecting another input port of ~~[[a]]~~ the data switch to the network bus to output the decrypted digital information, the digital information, and the superimposed signal to an output port plurality of switch ports.

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39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

connecting a mass storage device to the system data bus;
storing a browser-based graphical user interface in the mass storage device; and
receiving an instruction to retrieve the graphical user interface from the mass storage device.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

connecting a mass storage device to the system data bus; and
storing an item identifier having a first field indicating content stored in the mass storage device has been played, a second field indicating the content has been purchased, and a third field indicating the content has been licensed.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40, further comprising storing an item identifier indicating a cost of playback and a cost of purchase.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising further comprising connecting a card reader to the decryption logic for authorizing encrypted pay-per-view events received by the decryption logic.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40, further comprising receiving a storage position identifier specifying a logical storage position in the mass storage device.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising connecting an input of decoder logic in the gateway to an output of the decryption logic and connecting an output of the decoder logic to the single input of the media bus to receive the decrypted digital information from the decryption logic, to reformat the decrypted digital information, and to send reformatted digital information to the media bus.
45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the data switch is a router.
46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 39, further comprising storing content items in the mass storage device.
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52. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a plurality of buses interconnecting internal components of a gateway, the gateway comprising:

a processor and memory connected to a system data bus of the plurality of buses;
multiple pairs of a tuner and [[a]] demodulator in the gateway that receive a plurality of information signals;

decryption logic in the gateway having an input connected to the multiple pairs of the tuner and the demodulator to receive encrypted digital information from the multiple pairs of the tuner and the demodulator and to produce decrypted digital information;

decoder logic in the gateway having an input connected to an output of the decryption logic and receiving the decrypted digital information from the decryption logic, the decoder logic reformatting the decrypted digital information and producing reformatted digital information;

a digital converter in the gateway connected to the multiple pairs to receive analog information from the multiple pairs and to produce digital information;

a media data bus of the plurality of buses having a single input connected to the decoder logic and to the digital converter, the media data bus receiving the reformatted digital information and the digital information and sending the reformatted digital information and the digital information to one of three outputs of the media bus, with a first output of the media bus connected to the system data bus;

a video overlay processor in the gateway having three video overlay processor inputs and a video overlay processor output, a first video overlay processor input connected to a second media bus output of the media bus, a second video overlay processor input connected to a third media bus output of the media bus, and a third video overlay processor input connected to the system data bus, the video overlay processor output connected to the system data bus, the video overlay processor superimposing a first audio-visual signal over a second audio-visual signal to produce a superimposed signal and outputting the superimposed signal over the video overlay processor output to the system data bus;

a network bus of the plurality of buses having a network bus input connected to the system data bus and receiving the decrypted digital information, the digital information, and the superimposed signal; and

a data switch in the gateway having multiple input ports, with each pair of the multiple pairs of the tuner and demodulator connected to a respective dedicated one of the multiple input ports, such that each pair of the multiple pairs of the tuner and demodulator is dedicated to a different input port of the data switch, the [[a]] data switch also having another input port connected to the network bus to output the decrypted digital information, the digital information, and the superimposed signal to an output port plurality of switch ports.